

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. For the information of all Senators, on Monday the Senate will convene at 12 and we will have a period of morning business until 1. At 1 o'clock we will resume consideration of the agriculture appropriations bill. Under a previous order, the Senate will begin a series of up to four stacked votes at 5:30 on Monday. Those votes will be on invoking cloture on the agriculture appropriations bill, followed by a cloture motion to proceed to the transportation appropriations bill, a cloture motion to proceed to the Commerce, Justice, and State Department appropriations bill, and cloture on the motion to proceed to foreign operations appropriations. Therefore, Senators can expect the first vote on Monday to begin at 5:30.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order at the conclusion of remarks by the Senator from Nebraska, Mr. KERREY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I come to the floor to call my colleagues' attention to the current conflict between India and Pakistan over the line of control of Kashmir. I have a great deal of respect for the problem of watching situations that are not only a long way away from us but are so remote that it is hard to get a camera crew there. I fear that is what is going on. A lot of cameras and journalists are in Kosovo

watching the return of refugees and watching the United States troops come back into that region, as well they should.

There is a real danger in not watching and paying attention to what is going on between India and Pakistan, and there is a danger that our lack of attention to this particular problem could produce a confrontation that not only would be deadly but would draw in the rest of the world as well.

One of my principal concerns about the Kosovo operation, though I supported the bombing and I am pleased it is over and pleased that we have had some measure of success, was that it drew our attention away from non-NATO missions. The United States of America, unlike many of our NATO allies—indeed, unlike most of our NATO allies—has very important missions that we are performing throughout the world.

India and Pakistan is one of those missions. We were all surprised last year—and nobody should be surprised this time around—after India and Pakistan detonated nuclear weapons—surprised our State Department, surprised our CIA. We had a hearing trying to figure out why we were not able to predict this, even though the Prime Minister who won the race for the Parliament had, as part of his party platform, a promise to detonate and become a nuclear power. I do not think we should have been surprised. We were surprised.

We should not be surprised in this situation if this deteriorates into an additional war. India and Pakistan have had not only three wars since independence in the last 50 years, but there have been many serious and deadly skirmishes that have taken place over the line of control in Kashmir.

This could not only deteriorate again, and there is a bloody battle going on as we speak, but in addition to that, unlike the United States and the Soviet Union that over the last 50 years developed protocols to deal with nuclear weapons—and we have fairly substantial impressive margins for error—there have been no such discussions between India and Pakistan. Both of them are nuclear powers. Both of

them could detonate nuclear weapons and use nuclear weapons in a confrontation of this kind.

I have come before the Senate only to say to my colleagues I hope we pay an increasing amount of attention to what is clearly an issue that is vital to the security of the United States of America. This is not one where there is any doubt. It is a good example of the kind of non-NATO mission to which the United States of America, our diplomats, and our warfighters have to pay attention. This is a region of the world that is extremely unstable at the minute, and that instability could produce a confrontation with deadly consequences to us and deadly consequences to our interests in the region as well.

Just because it does not appear on this evening's news or in the newspapers, or it does not appear we are getting lengthy stories and coverage of the problems going on between India and Pakistan in Kashmir right now, no one should be surprised if, through our own failure to intervene with both significant diplomacy and other efforts, this confrontation gets larger and, as a consequence, we find ourselves suffering an awful lot more than the suffering we are currently seeing in Kosovo.

Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to speak. I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
JUNE 28, 1999

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:27 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 28, 1999, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate June 24, 1999:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PAUL W. FIDDICK, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, VICE WARDELL CLINTON TOWNSEND, JR., RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

EVELYN SIMONOWITZ LIEBERMAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY. (NEW POSITION)